

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-30 (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) An expandable polyamide composition comprising:

A: a compound having at least one isocyanate function;

B: a polyamide; and

C: a compound having at least one acid function, optionally a carboxylic acid function.

32. (Currently Amended) The composition according to Claim 31, wherein the polyamide is an oligomer or a polymer with a number-average molecular mass of greater than or equal to [[1 000]] 1,000 g/mol.

33. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 31, wherein the polyamide is polyamide 6, polyamide 6,6, or blends and copolymers thereof.

34. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 31, wherein the polyamide is a linear polyamide.

35. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 31, wherein the polyamide comprises starburst or H-shaped macromolecular chains.

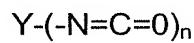
36. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 31, wherein the polyamide is a copolyamide of random arborescent structure.

37. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 31, wherein the polyamide is a composition comprising a linear polyamide and a starburst and/or H-shaped and/or arborescent polyamide.

38. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 31, wherein the polyamide is a composition comprising a hyperbranched copolyamide.

39. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 31, wherein compound A is a polyisocyanate.

40. (Previously Presented) The composition according to Claim 39, wherein the polyisocyanate is a polyisocyanate of formula (I):



wherein Y is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic, aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or heterocyclic multivalent group optionally comprising hetero atoms and n is at least

equal to 1.

41. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 39, wherein the polyisocyanate is a diisocyanate or a triisocyanate.

42. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 39, wherein the polyisocyanate is an isocyanurate.

43. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 31, wherein compound A is other than a prepolymer or a polymer.

44. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 31, wherein the isocyanate functions of compound A are protected with a protecting group.

45. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 44, wherein the protecting group is a lactam, optionally caprolactam.

46. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 44, wherein the compound A has a deprotection temperature of the isocyanate functions greater than the melting point or softening point of polyamide B.

47. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 31, wherein compound C is a dicarboxylic acid.

48. (Cancelled)

49. (Currently Amended) The composition according to claim 31, further comprising an additive selected from the group consisting of a pore-forming agent, a nucleating agent, a surfactant, a plasticizer, reinforcing fillers, matting agents, pigments, colorants, heat stabilizers, light stabilizers, bioactive agents, antisoiling agents, antistatic agents or flame retardants.

50. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a polyamide foam from an expandable polyamide composition as defined in claim 24, comprising the steps of:

- a) heating the an expandable foam composition comprising: (A) a compound having at least one isocyanate function; (B) a polyamide; and; and (C) a compound having at least one acid function, optionally a carboxylic acid function to a temperature of at least 80°C to obtain an alveolar structure, and
- b) stabilizing the alveolar structure obtained in step a), and
- c) recovering the foam obtained in step b).

51. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 50, wherein the temperature of step a) is greater than or equal to the melting point or softening point of the polyamide of the composition.

52. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 50, wherein the temperature of step a) is greater than or equal to the deprotection temperature of the isocyanate functions of compound A.

53. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 50, wherein an additive selected from the group consisting of a pore-forming agent, a nucleating agent, a surfactant, a plasticizer, reinforcing fillers, matting agents, pigments, colorants, heat stabilizers, light stabilizers, bioactive agents, antisoiling agents or antistatic agents is further added to the composition in step a).

54. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 50, wherein the foam obtained in step c) has a mass per unit volume of less than or equal to 0.5 g/cm³.

55. (New) An expandable polyamide composition comprising:
A: a compound having at least one isocyanate function; and
B: a polyamide; wherein at least one polyamide of component B has at least one acid function, optionally a carboxylic acid function